

Action has been initiated in all cases. In 15 cases payment has been made and compliance reported. Prosecution under section 28 of Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 for delayed payment has been launched in 7 cases. Warning had been issued in 7 cases after delayed payment of bonus. Show-cause notice was issued in 1 case. In 3 cases claim has been filed under section 15 of Payment of Wages Act for recovery of bonus.

Bonfire of Wild Life Products

*566. SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the wild life products including costly furs, skins and stuffed animals were burnt in a bonfire in the capital on April 18, 1991 to create awareness about preservation of wild life;

(b) if so, the details of the products burnt in the bonfire and the sources of their collection for the specific purpose;

(c) whether any arrest was also made for being in possession of these wildlife articles;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government propose to burn all such wild life products in future also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the period from 1974 to 1986, a number of cases of violation of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, were detected by the Wildlife Authorities of Delhi. Skins and articles forfeited in the cases which were either compounded or decided by the Court of Law, were lying in the stocks of the Chief Wildlife Warden, Delhi. Most of these skins and

articles which were lying for nearly 10 years with the Wildlife Authorities of Delhi, were burnt in public on 18-4-1991. The articles and skins burnt were mainly derived from the following species:

tiger, panther, clouded leopard, snow leopard, lynx, leopard cat, golden cat, marbled cat, caracal, fishing cat, desert cat, jungle cat, desert fox, red fox, Tibetan fox, common fox, Indian wolf, Jackal, civet, otter, hog-badger, chinkara, blackbuck, spotted deer, monitor lizard, domestic cat, python and other protected species of snakes.

(c) and (d) In the cases referred to above, 96 arrests had been made by the Delhi Administration.

(e) Most of the skins and articles came under the category of scheduled animal articles under Section 49 A of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. Commercial dealing in these articles is strictly prohibited. There is always a chance of such contraband items finding their way into illegal trade. Government of India have, therefore, requested the State Governments to consider burning and destroying of such articles.

Steps to Eradicate Malaria

*567. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have resorted to an integrated bio-environmental strategy as an alternative to the use of insecticides to eradicate malaria in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether this experiment has been found to be cost-effective?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) to (c) The adoption of a bio-environmental strategy as an alternative to the use of insecticides for vector control is in progress on an experimental basis.

The Malaria Research Centre is promoting alternative approaches for control of malaria in twelve projects. Under these projects mosquito control is being attempted through biological, environmental and personal protection methods.

Extensive field trials using biocides have also been undertaken to assess their efficacy and cost-effectiveness.

Forest Villages

568. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of forest villages and the population of tribal families residing in these villages, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the status of land in possession of tribal families; and

(c) the steps taken for extension of development schemes/benefits to tribal dwellers of forest villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Information to the extent available with the State Governments, is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(c) Government of India has issued guidelines to all the State Governments to convert forest villages into revenue villages by conferring heritable but inalienable rights of land to the villagers to facilitate implementation of developmental schemes in such villages.

[Translation]

Memorandum from 'Aapsi Mitra Mandal' Shalimar Bagh, Delhi

4283. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a memorandum from 'Aapsi Mitra Mandal' of Shalimar Bagh, Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi have reported that they had received the Memorandum from the Aapsi Mitra Mandal of Shalimar Bagh. This memorandum/representation broadly mentioned about the following problems in AG Block, Shalimar Bagh:—

(1) Although the internal sewerage lines have been laid there is no proper outlet of sewage, thus leading to spread of polluted water.

(2) Although a storm water drain was laid, that is not functioning properly and is closed after some distance and so proper storm water drains should be laid.

(3) The condition of internal roads and lanes is very bad and needs improvement.

(4) All the 11 parks are in poor shape and need to be maintained properly.

(c) The Delhi Development Authority have reported that the scheme for providing outfall drains has been approved and the work is under process of finalisation. At present storm water is being discharged into the low-lying areas of Shalimar Bagh along the railway line and is finally discharged into the supplementary drain through culvert provided on the outer ring road. Work has been started for permanent outfall sewerage system and will be completed in two years.